

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-03 ACDA-05 L-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 NRC-05 /045 W
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R 221457Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5875

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 4441

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA, PARM, IT, SP, SW

SUBJ: ITALIAN CANDIDACY FOR DESIGNATED SEAT ON BOARD OF
GOVERNORS

GENEVA FOR USDEL REVCON

REF: A) IAEA4077; B) IAEA 4166 (NOTAL)

1. MEETING OF LOCAL REPS OF WESTERN EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF
BOARD OF GOVERNORS TOOK PLACE AT UK MISSION MAY 16
(PARA 3 REF B) BUT ENDED IN DEADLOCK AFTER TWO HOUR DIS-
CUSSION. UK MISOFF ATTENDING (LLOYD) INFORMED ME THAT
MEETING BEGAN WITH PRESENTATION BY SWEDISH AMBASSADOR
(PETRI) CHALLENGING ITALIAN TENURE IN DESIGNATED SEAT
ALONG LINES OF ARGUMENT OF SPANISH COUNSELLOR IN
EARLIER CALL AT MISSION (REF B). TECHNICAL PAPER IN
SUPPORT OF SWEDISH CLAIM TO SEAT WAS PRESENTED PETRI
POINTED OUT THAT ITALY HAD REJECTED SWEDISH/SPANISH
SUGGESTION OF THREE-WAY ROTATION IN DESIGNATED SEAT AND
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APPEALED TO OTHER GROUP MEMBERS FOR SUPPORT. IN RES-

PONSE, ITALIAN REP (AMB. CAGIATI) SAID THAT GOI SAW NO NEED TO RECONSIDER ITS POSITION, WHEREUPON UK, FRG AND FRENCH REPS OBSERVED THAT THEY SAW NO NEED TO DISTURB THE STATUS QUO (I.E. RETENTION OF SEAT BY ITALY).

2. THERE WAS VIRTUALLY NO ATTEMPT TO EXPLORE OTHER POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS. SUGGESTION BY UK REP THAT WAYS MIGHT BE EXPLORED OF DEVISING CRITERIA FOR USE IN FUTURE IN DETERMINING STATES MOST ADVANCED IN TECHNOLOGY OF ATOMIC ENERGY RECEIVED NO RESPONSE EXCEPT FROM FRENCH COUNSELLOR DEMENTHON (CHAIRING MEETING IN JACKSON'S ABSENCE) WHO OBSERVED THAT FORMULATION OF CRITERIA WOULD BE TIME-CONSUMING AND SOLVE NOTHING. WHILE MEETING BEGAN WITH ALL AGREEING THAT DISPUTE SHOULD NOT BE BROUGHT TO BOARD, IT ENDED WITH PARTIES TO DISPUTE DESPAIRING OF ANY HOPE OF ATTEMPTING TO RESOLVE ISSUE BEFORE BOARD MEETS.

3. DISCUSSION BETWEEN CANADIAN RESREP (BEESLEY), AMB. PETRI AND I (AT PETRI'S REQUEST) MAY 20 CONFIRMED IMPASSE OUTLINED ABOVE. PETRI CONTENDED THAT ITALY WAS BEING UNREASONABLE; THAT STATUTE PROVIDED FOR ANNUAL DESIGNATION OF SEATS, AND THAT SWEDES AND SOME OTHERS HAD NEVER BEEN PARTIES TO PURPORTED CONSENSUS ON "PERMANENT SEATS" WHICH WOULD BE IN ANY CASE A VIOLATION OF STATUTE; THAT SWEDEN WAS CLEARLY AHEAD OF ITALY AS AN "ADVANCED" STATE AND PREPARED TO PRESS ITS CASE WITH ALL OTHER BOARD MEMBERS ON TECHNICAL GROUNDS.

4. SWEDEN, SAID PETRI, WOULD ARGUE THAT CRITERION FOR DETERMINING "MOST ADVANCED" STATES SHOULD BE STATUS OF DOMESTICALLY DEVELOPED TECHNOLOGY AND PRESENTED COPIES OF AN OFFICIAL PAPER DEVELOPING THIS ARGUMENT (COPIES POUCHES IO/SCT AND ERDA). HE NOTED THAT SWEDEN WOULD ALSO DRAW ATTENTION OF BOARD MEMBERS TO LARGE SWEDISH CONTRIBUTION TO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH SIDA PROGRAM (ADMINISTERED BY AGENCY) AND THROUGH ITS CONTRIBUTION IN-KIND TO AGENCY.

5. PETRI SAID THERE WAS NO HOPE OF SOLVING MATTERS
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WITHIN THE EUROPEAN GROUP BEFORE JUNE 10 BOARD AND THAT SWEDEN WOULD ASK FOR A BOARD VOTE ON QUESTION OF DESIGNATION. I OBSERVED THAT ITALY WAS PURSUING ITS OWN CAMPAIGN VERY AGGRESSIVELY AND THAT SWEDEN AND SPAIN HAD WAITED UNTIL RATHER LATE IN THE GAME TO MOUNT A SERIOUS CHALLENGE, ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THE PREOCCUPATION OF BOARD MEMBERS WITH THE NPT REVCON. I ASKED PETRI WHETHER SWEDEN MIGHT CONSIDER, AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO AN

UNFORTUNATE CONFRONTATION AT THE BOARD, FOREGOING ITS
CHALLENGE THIS TIME BUT SUBMITTING TO AN EXPERT GROUP
THE TASK OF DRAFTING A SET OF CRITERIA FOR USE BY THE
BOARD IN DISCHARGING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER ARTICLE
VI A.1. PETRI REPLIED IN EFFECT THAT WHILE HE WOULD
HEARTILY ENDORSE REFERRAL OF CRITERIA TO AN EXPERT
GROUP, SWEDEN HAD NO DESIRE TO GIVE UP ITS SEAT ON THE
BOARD THIS YEAR (WHICH, AS MEMBER ELECTED BY THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE, IT IS OBLIGED TO DO IN SEPTEMBER)
WHILE ITALY REMAINED ON AS ONE OF THE PRESTIGIOUS
"DESIGNATED" BOARD MEMBERS. MEETING CLOSED WITH
BEESLEY AND I PROMISING TO REPORT THE DISCUSSION AND
EXPRESSING HOPE THAT COMPROMISE COULD BE FOUND THAT WOULD
AVERT A BOARD VOTE ON DESIGNATION OF SEATS.LEAHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, NOMINATION, DEMARCHE, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, COMMITTEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975IAEAV04441
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750181-0091
From: IAEA VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750528/aaaaayvs.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 IAEA4077, 75 IAEA 4166
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <02 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN CANDIDACY FOR DESIGNATED SEAT ON BOARD OF GOVERNORS
TAGS: PARM, IT, SP, SW, IAEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006